

Sermon: A Lesson about AntiChrist

Text: I John 2:18-27 ESV

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Introduction: Before we begin, I want you to know that there is, and has always been, much confusion about who or even what the AntiChrist is. In the first century, the Apostle John is trying to have the Church avoid heresy and false information about “the last hour.” He also is trying to provide a prescription for the church to remain faithful.

I. _____ of (the) AntiChrist spirit

- A. _____ that Fracture the Body of Christ
- B. _____ of the Holy Spirit in Members’ Lives
- C. _____ of Jesus and His Mission

II. _____ against (the) AntiChrist

- A. a specific _____ about God and His plan for you
- B. a _____ with God through Jesus Christ, the Son
- C. a life that _____ in Jesus is eternal.

“The best way to prepare for the coming of Christ is never forget the presence of Christ.” - *DSB*, Barclay, p.84

Conclusion: Certainly in an expansion on Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s idea of “cheap grace,” David Wells in his book: *In God in the Wasteland* (p. 30) writes, “The fundamental problem in the evangelical world today is not inadequate technique, insufficient organization, or antiquated music, and those who want to squander the church’s resources bandaging these scratches will do nothing to stanch the flow of blood that is spilling from its true wounds. The fundamental problem in the evangelical world today is that God rests too inconsequentially upon the church. His truth is too distant, his grace is too ordinary, his judgment is too benign, his gospel is too easy, and his Christ is too common.”

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Warning Concerning Antichrists

18 Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. 20 But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.[a] 21 I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. 22 Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. 23 No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. 24 Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that he made to us[b]—eternal life.

26 I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. 27 But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.

Footnotes:

[a] 1 John 2:20 Some manuscripts *you know everything*

[b] 1 John 2:25 Some manuscripts *you*